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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/501,926	03/29/2005	Munehiro Chosa	256442US0XPCT	2161
22850	7590	07/25/2005	EXAMINER	
OBLON, SPIVAK, MCCLELLAND, MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C. 1940 DUKE STREET ALEXANDRIA, VA 22314			BOYKIN, TERRESSA M	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			1711	
DATE MAILED: 07/25/2005				

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/501,926

Applicant(s)

CHOSA, MUNEHIO

Examiner

Terressa M. Boykin

Art Unit

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 7-28-05.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-8 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-8 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 7/04/10/04.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

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Priority

Receipt is acknowledged of papers submitted under 35 U.S.C. 119(a)-(d), which papers have been placed of record in the file.

35 USC 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 1-8 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over JP 2000001608 note pages 3-5, table 1 and 2 of the translation provided herein or 6316071 in view of US 5717055.

JP 2000001608 discloses a polycarbonate resin composition useful for the production of a substrate for an optical recording medium having a large memory capacity, and manifesting good mold-releasing properties at a high molding temperature and mold temperature by including a metal without an alkali metal in a specific amount or less, and a fatty acid ester of a polyhydric alcohol.

The polycarbonate resin composition contains ≤ 0.5 ppm metal without an alkali metal, and 100-1,000 ppm fatty acid ester of a polyhydric alcohol as a mold releasing agent. The composition is obtained by compounding the mold releasing agent with a polycarbonate resin. 2,2-Bis(4-

hydroxyphenyl)propane or the like is cited as a phenolic compound of a raw material of the polycarbonate. Glycerol monostearate or the like are disclosed as usable as the fatty acid ester of the polyhydric alcohol. The viscosity average molecular weight is also disclosed.

US **6316071** discloses a digital versatile disk (DVD) excellent in transferability on injection molding, and excellent in releasability from a mold and in strength is provided. The substrate of the digital versatile disk (DVD) comprises an aromatic polycarbonate resin composition containing a fatty acid monoglyceride having from 14 to 30 carbon atoms in an amount of from 0.015 to 0.05% by weight, wherein the aromatic polycarbonate resin contains an end group, 30% by mol or more of which is a p-cumylphenoxy group and/or a p-tert-octylphenoxy group, and has a viscosity average molecular weight (Mv) of from 10,000 to 17,000.

Thus, the references each disclose a polycarbonate resin for optical disc substrates prepared from the same components as claimed by applicants except for the particular addition of water having an electric conductivity as claimed.

However, US **5717055** discloses a method of producing polycarbonate resin pellets containing very less residual organic solvent and low molecular weight volatile matters and having a high transparency by melt-kneading a polycarbonate resin powder in an extruder equipped with a screw having a material seal mechanism, and vents, and devolatilizing the residual organic solvent and/or the low molecular weight volatile

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matters at the vent portion and then extruding the molten resin. In particular, the method

of the present invention is useful as a method of producing a light-colored and transparent polycarbonate resin suitable for optical articles, parts for automobiles, etc.

There is also proposed a method of forming the pellets of a polycarbonate resin powder after adding phosphorous acid to the polycarbonate resin together with water to control the water content to from 500 to 5,000 ppm as described in JP-A-4-81457. However, in the method, by the addition of phosphorous acid, the hydrolysis resistance is lowered and also the long reliability of optical disks formed by the pellets is lowered.

The reference states particularly that the water added in the reference is preferably pure water, and pure water having an electric conductivity of not higher than 5 $\mu\text{S}/\text{cm}$, and preferably not higher than 1 $\mu\text{S}/\text{cm}$ is used. Water usually contains inorganic salts and if even slight amounts of these salts exist in water, there is a possibility that the vapor resistance and the heat resistance of the moldings are lowered. Hence it is necessary to lower the electric conductivity of water as low as possible.

It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to employ the step of adding water which has the electric conductivity as claimed in view of the benefits as disclosed by USP 5717055.

Consequently, the claimed invention cannot be deemed as unobviousness and accordingly is unpatentable.


Correspondence

Please note that the cited U.S. patents and patent application publications are available for download via the Office's PAIR. As an alternate source, all U.S. patents and patent application publications are available on the USPTO web site (www.uspto.gov), from the Office of Public Records and from commercial sources. Applicants may be referred to the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at <http://www.uspto.gov/ebc/index.html> or 1-866-217-9197.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Examiner Terressa Boykin whose telephone number is 571 272-1069. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Friday from 6:30am to 3:00pm.

The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306. The general information number for listings of personnel is (571-272-1700).

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



TERRESSA M. BOYKIN
PRIMARY EXAMINER